

**Wilderness Characteristics Inventory  
Summary of Analysis\***

**Area Unique Identifier:** CA-330-07/Brushy Mountain      **Total Acres Inventoried:** 5,589

**Subunit Unique Identifier:** CA-330-07-01/Subunit 01, CA-330-07-02

**Summary:** Brushy Mountain (CA-330-07) is located northeast of Willits, CA and encompasses approximately 5,589 acres of public land under the management of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) (Figure 1). Of the 5,589 acres, 5,525 acres contain lands with wilderness characteristics (LWC). The Brushy Mountain unit includes all contiguous BLM lands in Section 6 in Township 19N 12W, Section 1 in Township 19N 13W, Sections 30 and 31 in Township 20N 12W, and Sections 10, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 35 in Township 20N 13W (note: all Public Land Survey System (PLSS) information for the Brushy Mountain unit is in reference to the Mount Diablo Meridian) (Figure 2). One wilderness inventory route (WIR) bisects the unit across its northeastern border, creating two subunits (Figure 3).

**CA-330-07-01 (Subunit 01):** Subunit 01 is 5,525 acres and includes all land in the Brushy Mountain unit west of unnamed WIR CA-330-07-R1. Subunit 01 is bounded on all sides by private land; however Section 36 of Township 20N 13W, which is entirely encompassed by Subunit 01, is state land. Brushy Mountain Subunit 01, is apparently natural, provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, and has supplemental ecological values. These characteristics qualify Brushy Mountain Subunit 01 for LWC.

**CA-330-07-02 (Subunit 02):** Subunit 02 is 64 acres and includes all contiguous land in the Brushy Mountain unit east of unnamed WIR CA-330-07-R1 in Section 13 of Township 20N 13W. Subunit 02 is bordered by private land. Subunit 02 is below 5,000 acres and therefore does not meet the size requirement for LWC.

**Results of analysis:**

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements?

☒ Yes ☐ No

2. Does the area appear to be natural?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

4. Does the area have supplemental values?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

**Conclusion:**

  X   The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as lands with wilderness characteristics.

       The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

**Prepared by:**

Alexandra Bandeian, Resource Inventory Team, Student Conservation Association

Stephanie Barron, Seasonal Wildlife Technician, BLM Arcata Field Office

Galen Keily, Resource Inventory Team, Student Conservation Association

Quentin Parker, Seasonal Wildlife Technician, BLM Arcata Field Office

**Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):**

Name: Molly Burr Title: Field Manager

Date: 12/16/16

\* This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-3.

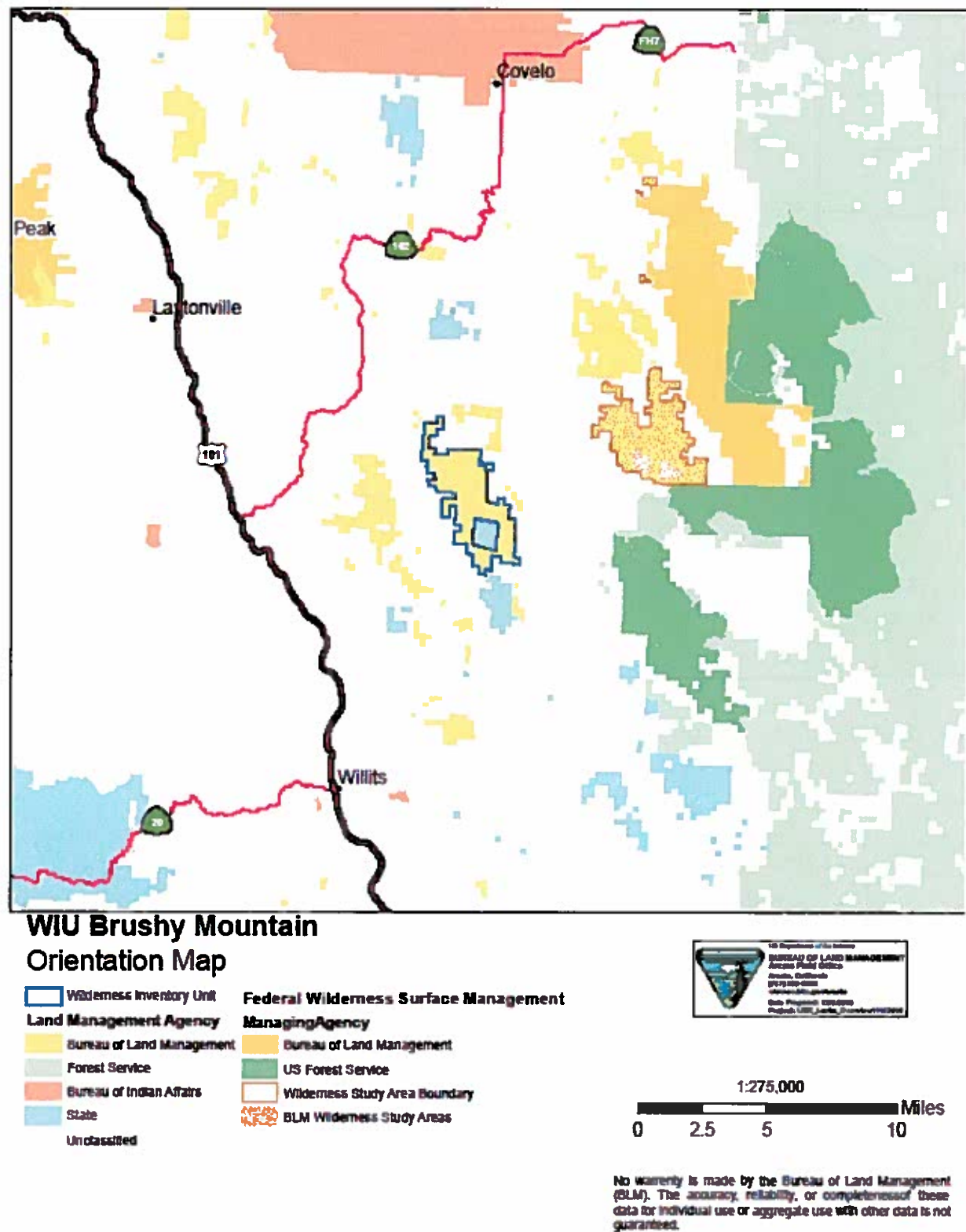
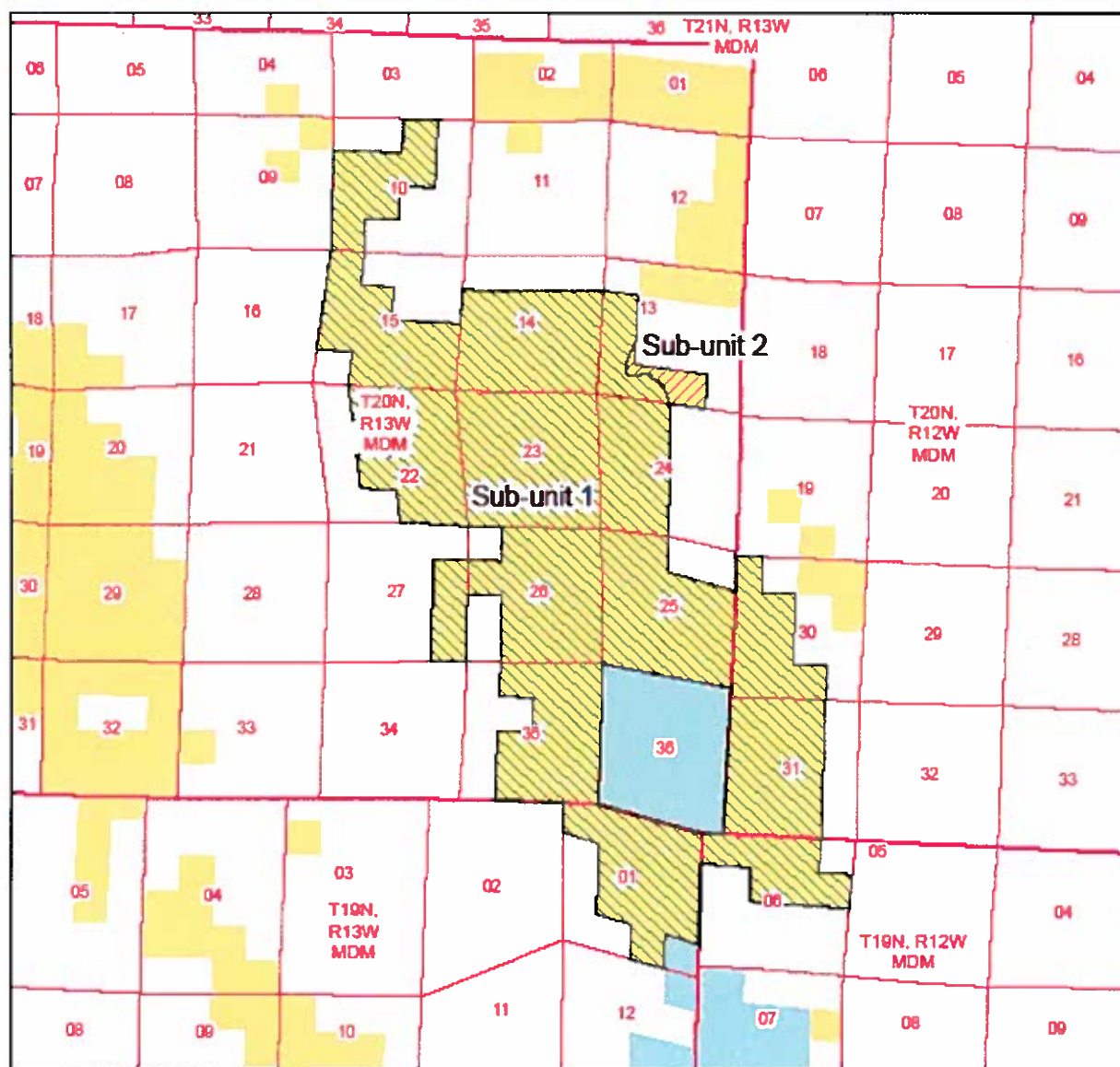


Figure 1: Orientation Map for Brushy Mountain Wilderness Inventory Area



## WIU Brushy Mountain Subunit Map

**Wilderness Characteristics**

NO  
YES

**Land Management Agency**

Bureau of Land Management  
State  
Township  
Sections



1:60,000

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data is not guaranteed.

**Figure 2: Map of Brushy Mountain Wilderness Inventory Area**

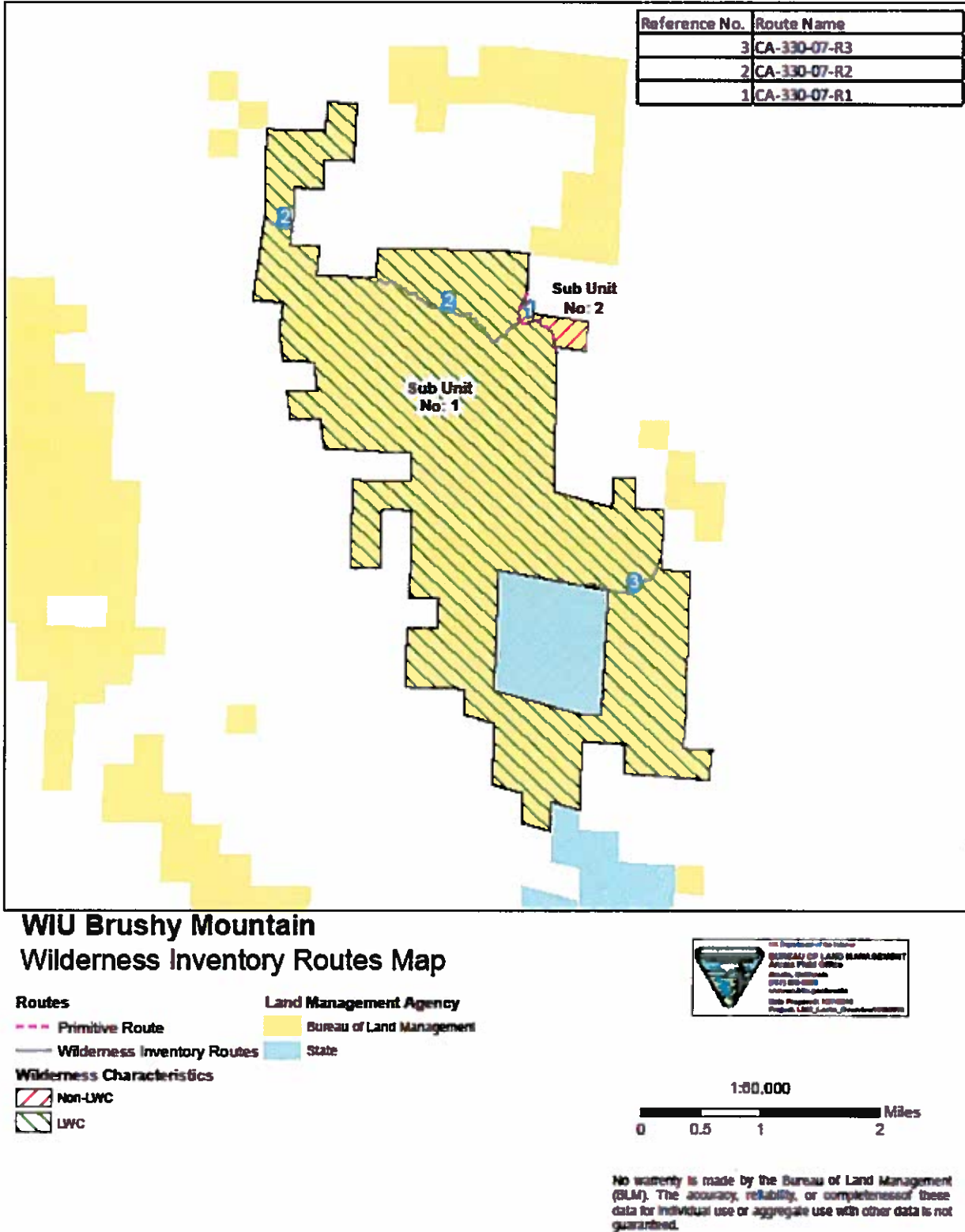
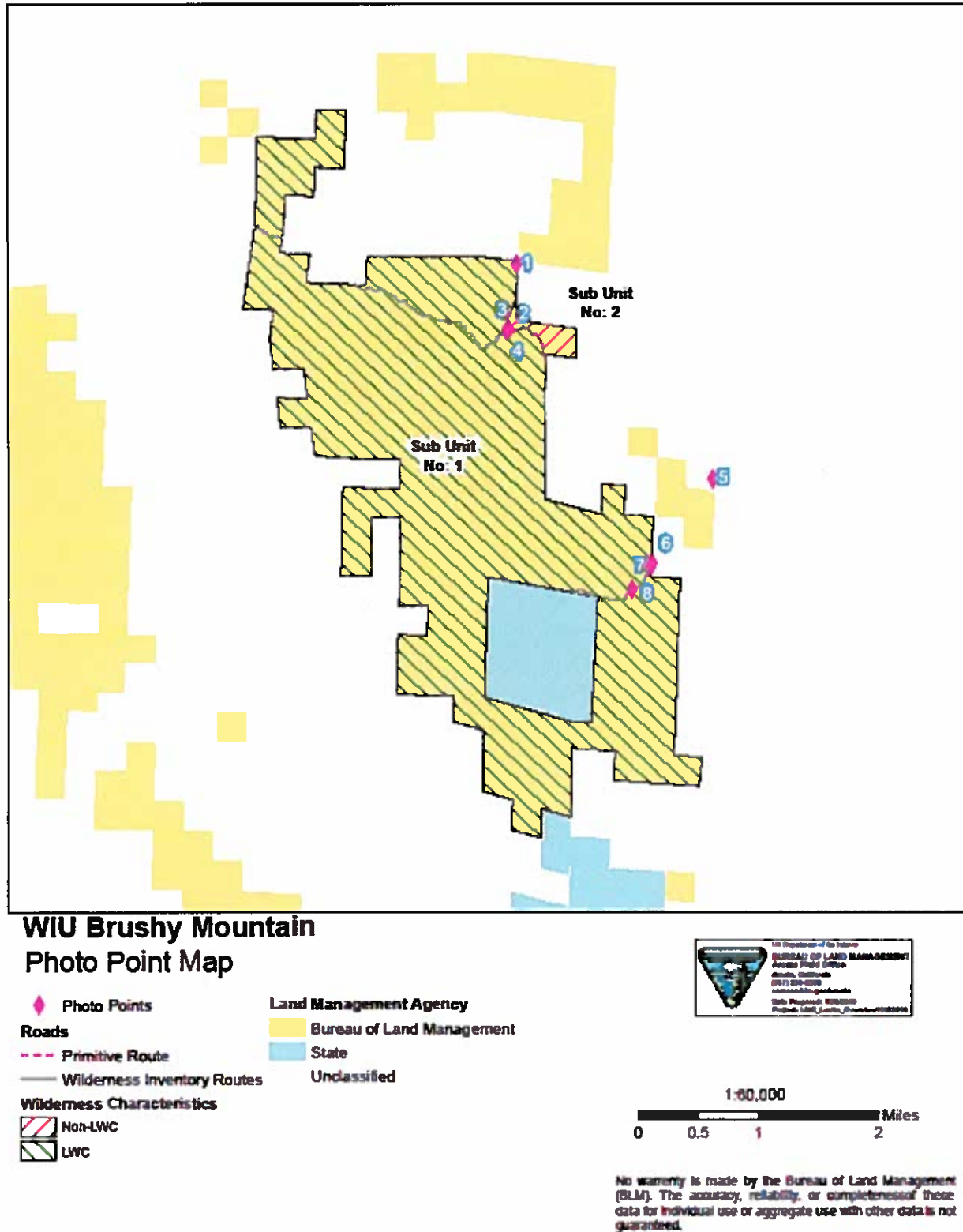


Figure 3: Route map for Brushy Mountain Wilderness Inventory Area





**Figure 4: Photo Points within and around Brushy Mountain Wilderness Area**

**FORM 1**

**Documentation of BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Findings from Previous  
Inventory on Record**

**1. Is there existing BLM wilderness characteristics inventory information on all or part of this area?**

No   X   (Go to Form 2) Yes       

**a) Inventory Source:** \_\_\_\_\_

**b) Inventory Area Unique Identifier(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**c) Map Name(s)/Number(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:**

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics:

Inventory Source:

<b>Area Unique Identifier</b>	<b>Sufficient Size? Yes/No (acres)</b>	<b>Naturalness? Yes/No</b>	<b>Outstanding Solitude? Yes/No</b>	<b>Outstanding Primitive &amp; Unconfined Recreation? Yes/No</b>	<b>Supplemental Values? Yes/No</b>

**FORM 2**

**Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics**

Area Unique Identifier: CA-330-07-01/Brushy Mountain Subunit 01 Acreage: 5,525

(1) Is the area of sufficient size?

Yes X No       

**Description:**

The Brushy Mountain Subunit 01 (Subunit 01) is an irregularly shaped parcel of land measuring approximately 6 miles vertically and 3 miles horizontally from its longest points. Subunit 01 includes all contiguous BLM land in Section 6 in Township 19N 12W, Section 1 in Township 19N 13W, Sections 30 and 31 in Township 20N 12W, and Sections 10, 13 (west of unnamed WIR CA-330-07-R1), 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 35 in Township 20N 13W. Brushy Mountain Subunit 01 is 5,525 acres of roadless and contiguous land, and therefore meets the size requirement for LWC.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes X No        N/A       

**Description:**

**Land Ownership:** Subunit 01 contains 5,525 acres of contiguous public land under management by the Bureau of Land Management Arcata Field Office. A state-owned inholding is located within the unit.

**Topography:** Subunit 01 is a topographically diverse region characterized by rolling hills, ridges over 3,000 feet in elevation, and drainages. The Middle Fork Eel River flows through the western and southern portions of Subunit 01.

**Vegetative Features:**

The landscape of Subunit 01 is diverse and demonstrates three major habitats: oak savannah, chaparral shrub land, and Douglas-fir forest. The oak savannah habitat is characterized by oaks (*Quercus spp.*), sparsely scattered across open fields of grasses and forbs. The chaparral shrub habitat is dominated by manzanita (*Arctostaphylos spp.*) and tanoak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*). Virgin stands of Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) are also present throughout Subunit 01. Also present in these forests as minor components are ponderosa pine (*Pinus*



*ponderosa*), sugar pine (*Pinus lambertiana*), black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*), Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*), Pacific madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*), and tanoak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*), among various other associated species as minor components.

**Major Human Uses/Activities:**

While the surrounding private lands have been logged and managed for hunting by private property owners, Subunit 01 appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature.

(3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes   X   No        N/A       

**Description:**

The topographically diverse landscape and Douglas-fir forests of Subunit 01 afford visitors topographic and vegetative screening, allowing them to be isolated from the sights and sounds of other visitors in the area. Additionally, the isolation of the unit and the lack of traversable roads within the subunit reduce the frequency of visitation and contribute to outstanding opportunities for solitude.

(4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes   X   No        N/A       

**Description:**

Subunit 01 affords ample opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The open, grassy hills offer visitors rewarding views of wildlife as well as vistas of the surrounding scenery. The Middle Fork Eel River flows through the western and southern portions of Subunit 01, and allows opportunities for visitors to fish, swim, and boat. Additional types of primitive and unconfined recreation possible in Subunit 01 include but are not limited to hiking, backpacking, photography, camping, and sight-seeing of botanical, zoological, and geological features.

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)?

Yes   X   No        N/A       

**Description:**

Brushy Mountain Subunit 01 has supplemental ecological values. A virgin stand of old-growth Douglas-firs is present in Subunit 01 and represents a remnant of the historical ecosystem composition. This stand is ecologically significant as it is one of extremely few virgin forests remaining in the area. Additionally, there are ample reports of wildlife sightings on private property bordering the Subunit, 01 including black bear, elk, wild boar, and even rare species such as fisher. Given the pristine nature of the subunit, it likely serves as a refuge for these species. Furthermore, the Middle Fork Eel River, the largest tributary of the Eel River, flows through the western and southern portions of Brushy Mountain Subunit 01. The Eel River is a state and federally designated wild and scenic river, and is home to several threatened fish species including coho and Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch* and *O. tshawytscha*) and steelhead trout (*O. mykiss*).

**WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY****APPENDIX C – ROUTE ANALYSIS<sup>1</sup>**Inventory Area Unique Identifier: CA-330-07/Brushy Mountain

Route	Purpose	ROW	Constructed or Improved Mechanically	Is it in regular or continuous use	Maintenance if needed	WI Road <sup>2</sup>	Photo Points
CA-330-07-R1	Access to private land	N	Y- Bladed, roadside berms, culverts	Y- Inferred regular use by private land owner to access property surrounding unit	Y- Road in good condition; inferred maintenance to ensure continued access to private property	Y	1
CA-330-07-R2	Unknown	N	Y- Bladed, roadside berms	N- Vegetation obstructing route, rendering it impassable by vehicle; limited public access; no evidence of regular or continuous use	N- Vegetation obstructing route, rendering it impassable by vehicle; no evidence of maintenance	N	2, 4
CA-330-07- R3	Unknown	N	Y- Bladed	N- Vegetation obstructing route, rendering it impassable by vehicle; limited public access; appears to be primarily used as a footpath; no evidence of regular or continuous use	N- Vegetation obstructing route, rendering it impassable by vehicle; no evidence of maintenance	N	5, 6, 7

<sup>1</sup> This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-3.

<sup>2</sup> Road: An access route which has been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.

a. Improved and maintained – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. —Improved does not necessarily mean formal construction. —Maintained does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.

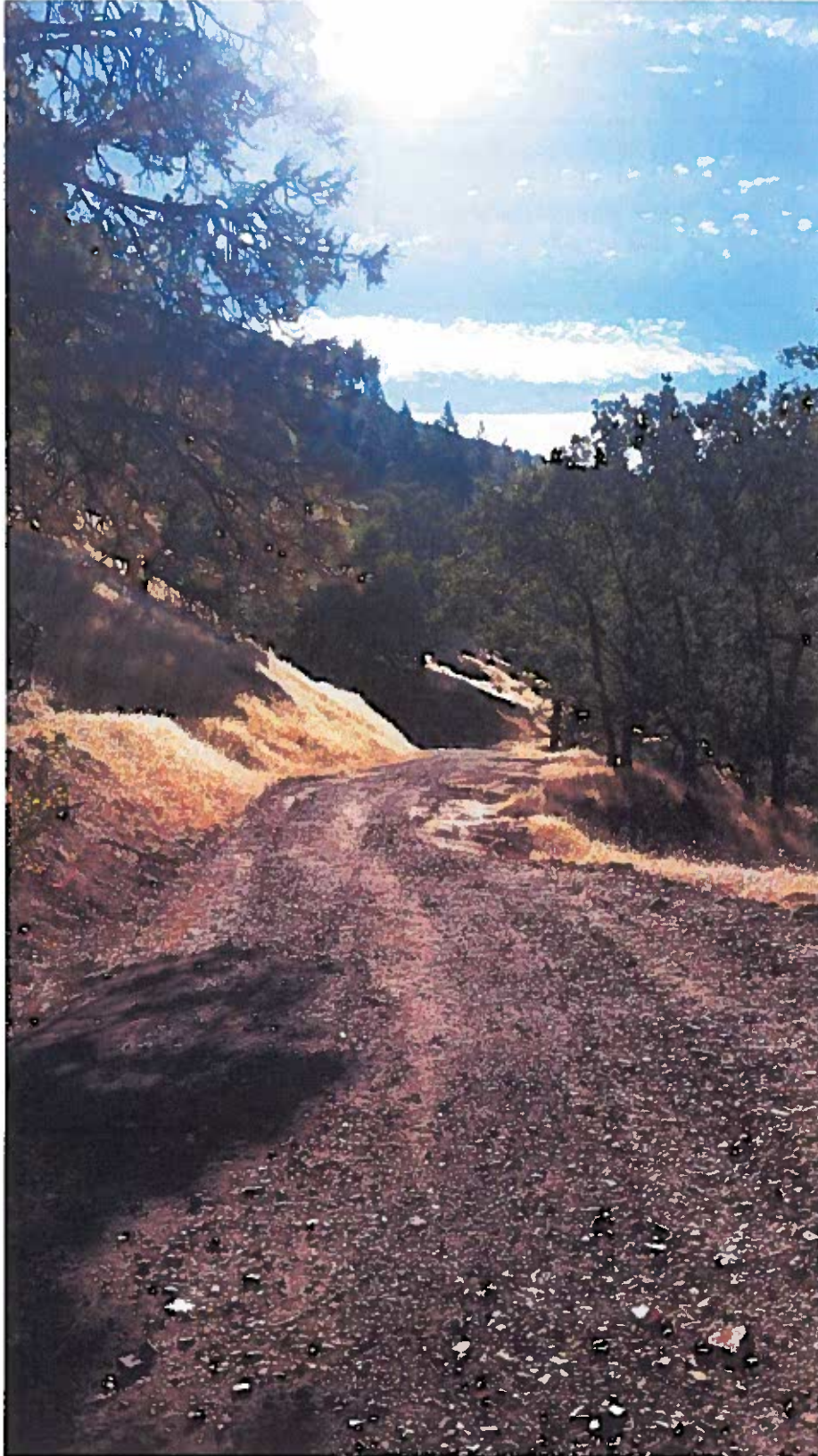
b. Mechanical means – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.

c. Relatively regular and continuous use – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources, access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities, or access roads to mining claims.

**WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY****APPENDIX D – PHOTO LOG**Photographer(s): Stephanie Barron, Galen KeilyInventory Area Unique Identifier: CA-330-07/Brushy Mountain

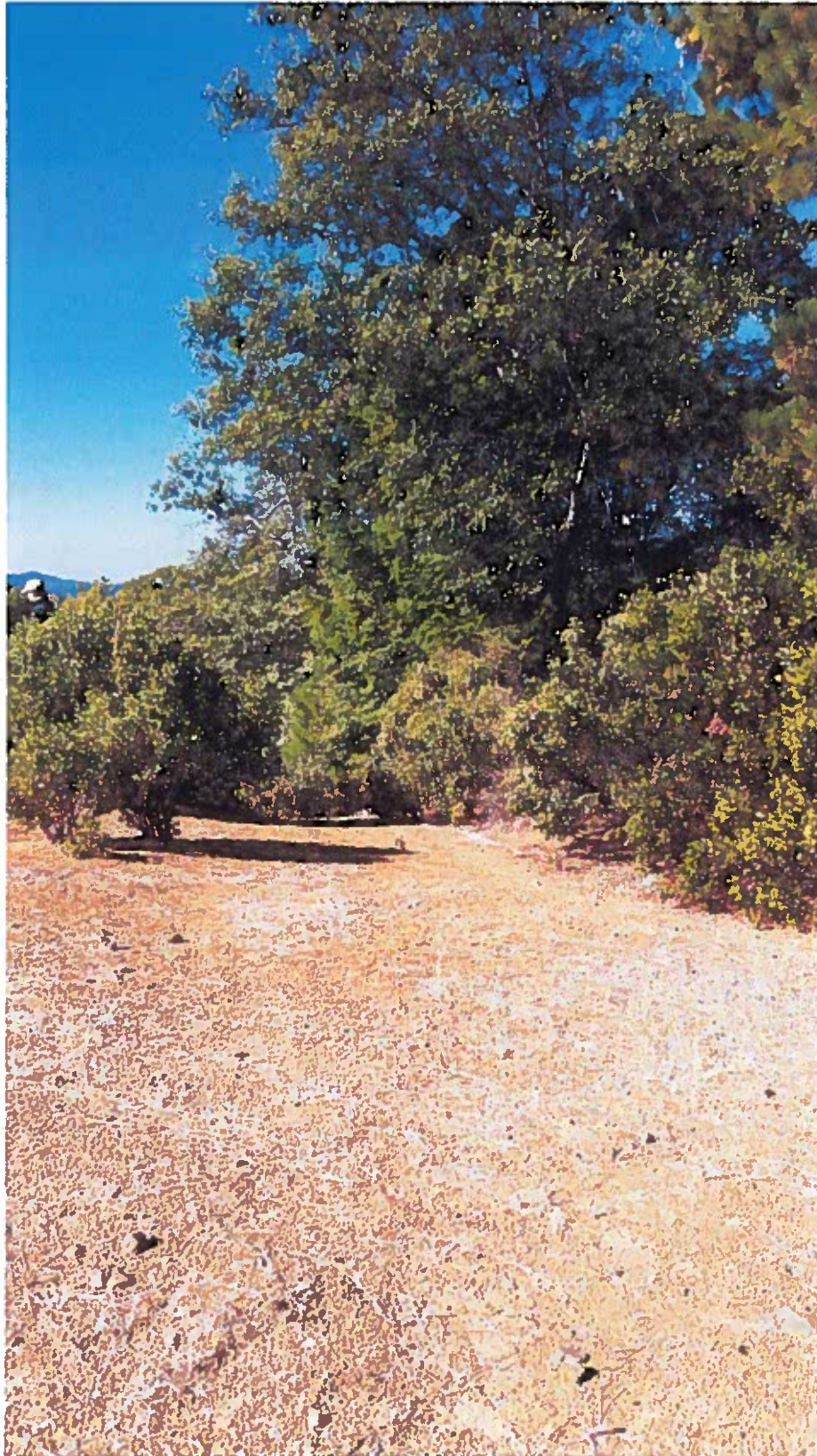
Photo Point #	Date	Camera Direction	Description	Lat.	Long.	Township	Range	Sec.
1	9/21/16	S	CA-330-07-R1 (WIR) as it crosses the boundary into Brushy Mountain Subunit 01. Evidence of mechanical construction (i.e blading) is apparent in photo.	39.595657°	-123.2556°	20N	13W	13
2	9/21/16	W	Beginning of CA-330-07-R2 (PR) off of R1.	39.587804°	-123.2565°	20N	13W	13
3	9/21/16	SW	View of Subunit 01 looking southwest. Photo demonstrates the apparent naturalness and opportunities for solitude afforded by the subunit by its uninterrupted forest landscape.	39.587665°	-123.2566°	20N	13W	13
4	9/21/16	W	Photo depicts significant vegetation encroachment at the entrance of CA-330-07-R2, obstructing vehicular passage. There is no evidence that this route is used.	39.587685°	-123.2567°	20N	13W	13
5	9/21/16	SW	Start of CA-330-07-R3, before it crosses the boundary into Subunit 01. Evidence of mechanical construction is apparent (i.e.- blading).	39.570631°	-123.2238°	20N	12W	19
6	9/21/16	SW	CA-330-07-R3 (PR) within Subunit 01. No apparent sign of regular use by vehicle or mechanical maintenance.	39.560263°	-123.2328°	20N	12W	30
7	9/21/16	S	Very old woody debris obstructing passage along CA-330-07-R3 within	39.559743°	-123.2331°	20N	12W	30

			Subunit 01, indicating route is not regularly used or maintained.					
8	9/21/16	E	View of Subunit 01 looking south. Photo demonstrates the uninterrupted landscape and apparent naturalness afforded by subunit.	39.55689°	-123.2359°	20N	12W	30



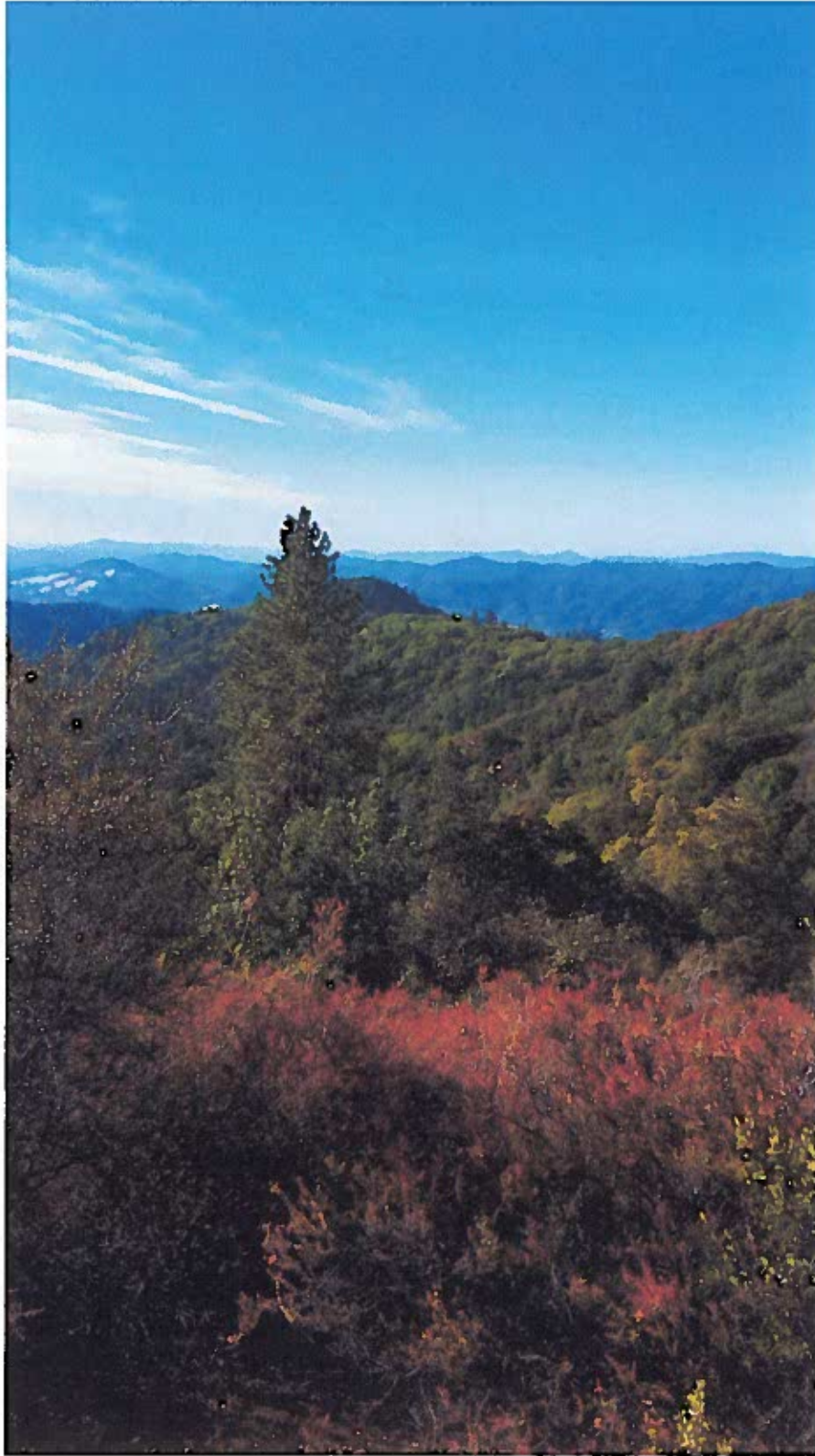
**Photo point 1-** CA-330-07-R1 (WIR) as it crosses the boundary into Brushy Mountain Subunit 01. Evidence of mechanical construction (i.e.- blading) is apparent in photo.





**Photo point 2-** Beginning of CA-330-07-R2 (PR) off of R1.Evidence of mechanical construction (i.e.- blading) apparent in photo.





**Photo point 3-** View of Subunit 01 looking southwest. Photo demonstrates the apparent naturalness and opportunities for solitude afforded by the subunit by its uninterrupted forest landscape.



**Photo point 4-** Photo depicts significant vegetation encroachment at the entrance of CA-330-07-R2, obstructing vehicular passage. There is no evidence that this route is used.





**Photo point 5-** Start of CA-330-07-R3, before it crosses the boundary into Subunit 01. Evidence of mechanical construction is apparent (i.e.- blading).



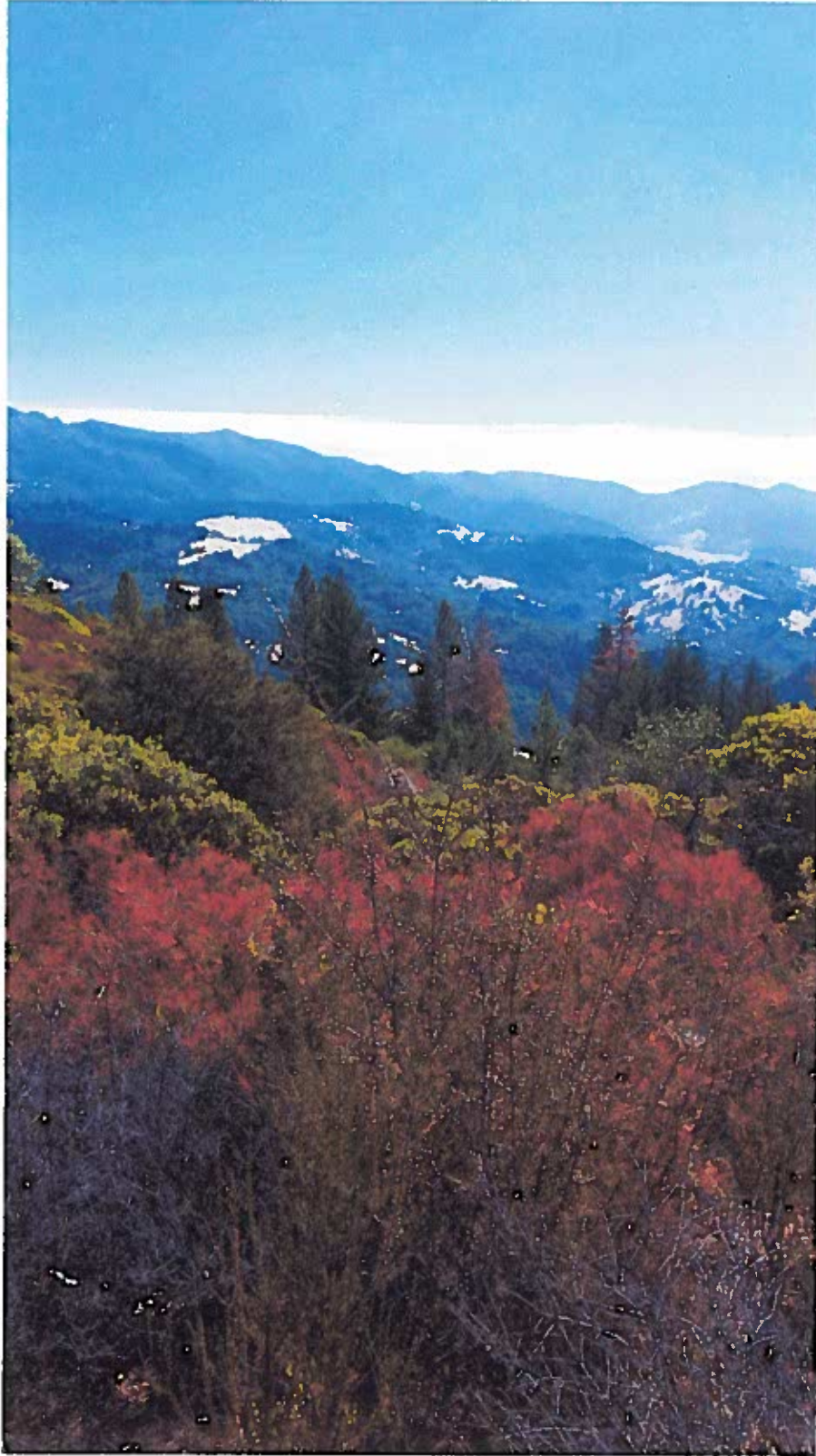


**Photo point 6- CA-330-07-R3 (PR) within Subunit 01. No apparent sign of regular use by vehicle or mechanical maintenance.**



**Photo point 7-** Very old woody debris obstructing passage along CA-330-07-R3 within Subunit 01, indicating route is not regularly used or maintained.





**Photo point 8-** View of Subunit 01 looking south. Photo demonstrates the uninterrupted landscape and apparent naturalness afforded by the subunit.

